

National Fasting and Prayer 21/2/09

Members and friends of the Church of God gathered at the Church in Handsworth for our National Prayer and Fasting meeting. Although most of our members work during the week and look forward to their Saturdays off work, the meeting was very well attended, as those present saw and felt the need for earnest prayer.

Our National Overseer moderated the meeting. He told us that we had not come to talk to one another but we had come to talk to God and this was God's time. From the start of our devotion the Spirit of God could be felt in our midst as we sang the hymns, *"I Need Thee Every Hour"* and *"Guide Me O Thou Great Jehovah."*

As we knelt to pray, members could be heard calling out to God for His divine intervention in their lives and in the Church. As we continued to pray and seek God's face the following Message was given by the Holy Ghost.

"Don't worry my people I will sustain you. My coming is soon. Be serious about me. There are hypocrites in my Church. I will purge you; I will cleanse my Church. This is my Church, my body. My coming is soon, my coming is soon."

The scripture reading was from St. Matthew chapter 24 where various verses were read. In this chapter Jesus spoke of the signs that would precede His second coming. Our Overseer mentioned that because of the prevailing iniquity in the world many would relinquish their faith and give up on God. Only those who endured to the end would be saved. He encouraged us to take note of what was happening in Israel [*God's time clock*]. Finally he encouraged us to be ready, because we do not know the day or the hour when our Lord will return.

Pastor Frances Prince encouraged us to be *sober*. She told us to be serious about our salvation and to take note of the prevailing attacks on Christianity and freedom of expression. She said the time might come where we will have to stand up for what we believe in, even if it meant putting our jobs in jeopardy.

Pastor Beverly Anderson encouraged our youth to get their lives right with God while they were young because they may never get another chance to put it right.

During our final prayer session the Ministers prayed for those requesting prayer. Following this one lady who had left the Church years ago gave her testimony thanking God for leading her back to the fold

We thank God for a wonderful day and for His presence in our midst and look forward to our next meeting.